

REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
BOROUGH OF WALSALL,
DURING THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31st, 1908,

BY

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

OF THE

WALSALL CORPORATION.

MR. COUNCILLOR C. C. WALKER, Chairman.

MR. ALDERMAN CLARE, Vice-Chairman.

MR. COUNCILLOR ADDISON

„ „ OSWIN

„ „ PARKES

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„ „ THOMAS

„ „ VENABLES

„ „ WARNER

„ „ WILLIAMS

Meet on the third Monday in each Month, at 3 p.m.

Isolation Hospital Sub-Committee

MR. COUNCILLOR C. C. WALKER.

MR. ALDERMAN CLARE.

MR. COUNCILLOR VENABLES.

Medical Officer of Health.

JAMES SCOTT WILSON, M.D., D.P.H., F.C.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE.

Assistant Inspectors.

ERNEST F. B. A. MINER (No. 1 District).

W. A. HUDSON (No. 2 District).

A. E. HARRIS (No. 3 District).

Clerk.

JOHN SHINGLER.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1908.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	7,358
Estimated Population, June, 1908	...	...	...	97,778
Population per Acre	...	...	...	13'28
Number of Houses in Borough	...	...	...	20,038
Number of Persons per House	...	...	...	4'87
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£294,453
Id. in the £ yields for General Purposes	...	...	...	£1,052
Marriage Rate for Walsall Registration District	...	...	...	14'2
Birth Rate	...	...	...	29'54
Death Rate	...	...	...	14'78
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	147'80
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	...	2'09
Respiratory Death Rate	...	...	...	2'73
Total Deaths from Diarrhoea	...	...	...	118
Infantile Mortality from Diarrhoea per 1,000 Births	...	...	...	28'03
Death Rate from Phthisis	...	...	...	1'48
Death Rate from other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	'34
Percentage of Uncertified Deaths	...	...	...	'54
Rainfall	...	...	...	27'70

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL,

TWENTIETH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Walsall.*

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health, mortality, and general sanitary condition of the Borough for the year 1908.

The death rate for the year is 14·78, shewing a decrease as compared with the preceding year when it was 15·14, and well below the average death rate 17·29 for the past ten years.

I regret to say that the mortality among infants still keeps high, averaging a rate of 147·80 per thousand births against a rate of 151·20 in 1907.

The cause of this high mortality is, no doubt due in a great measure to ignorance on the part of the mothers as to the proper care and nurture of their infants. As you are about to appoint a lady health visitor whose duty it will be to visit the mothers and give advice as to the feeding and management of young children and endeavour to promote cleanliness amongst the poor, I am hoping that in the near future, I will be able to make a more favourable report to you on the mortality among infants.

There has been a severe epidemic of Scarlet Fever during the year, fortunately of rather a mild type. Only 17 deaths took place, making a death percentage of 2·8 on the cases notified, against a rate of 3·5 in the year 1907.

Last year we had a severe epidemic of Measles, from which we had 71 deaths, this year I am pleased to say there is no mortality from this disease.

TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES.

Walsall with an area of 7,358 acres stands at the highest point, viz.: Bloxwich, one of its suburbs, 538 feet above the level of the sea, and is considered a bracing and fairly healthy town. The soil consists of limestone, sand and clay, the surface rather uneven, some of the streets having a considerable incline.

Walsall is a manufacturing town, its chief staple trade being Saddlery. Since the introduction, however, of electrical and motor power and the consequent diminution in the number of vehicles used, this industry is not in a very flourishing condition. There is, therefore, at present a considerable amount of distress among the working classes, owing to bad trade and the lack of employment. Several of the harness makers have gone into the fancy leather trade, and this has been fairly good during the year.

Trade in the Tube making and manufacture of iron is also suffering from the general depression.

The Casting Shops have been fairly busy, Silver Platers also have been doing fairly well, but the Clothing trade still keeps bad.

HOUSING.

During the last few years, large suburbs consisting of streets of houses, each house having its own garden, with a sufficiency of open spaces, giving ample ventilation and assisting in the promotion of cleanliness of surroundings, have been erected for the working classes. Excepting some of the old parts of the town, where the streets are narrow and the ventilation inadequate, the housing of the working classes is on the whole good.

Owing to bad trade, there is still a large number of void houses in the Borough. The erection of all New Buildings is supervised by the Borough Surveyor's Department, the drains being tested with smoke before the Surveyor's Certificate is issued.

WATER SUPPLY.

Walsall is amply supplied with water by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company. The water is wholesome deep well water, collected in large reservoirs and conveyed to the town in metal pipes. Once in every month samples of this water are taken by the Health Department and sent to the Borough Analyst for analysis, who, I am pleased to say, in every instance, was able to certify the samples as being fit for drinking purposes.

In addition to these monthly samples, on the complaint of any householder who may be dissatisfied, a sample of water is at once taken and submitted for analysis.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar General to the middle of the year is 97,778.

Table giving the population at the last three census :—

1881	1891	1901
58,705	71,791	86,440

The following table shews the estimated population in each Ward at the middle of the year :—

Ward.			Estimated Population.
Bridge	...	..	9,465
Paddock	...	...	11,488
Pleck	...	...	13,853
Caldmore	...	...	18,119
Hatherton	...	...	10,188
Birchills	...	...	14,507
Leamore	...	...	11,458
Bloxwich	...	...	8,341

MARRIAGES.

There has been a decrease in the number of Marriages taking place in the Walsall Registration District from 1092 last year to 1019 in this year. This gives a marriage rate of 14·2 against a rate last year of 17·8.

BIRTHS.

It is gratifying to find that the birth rate in Walsall still maintains the level which has characterised it during the last few years and has not fallen as it has done in many other towns.

This year there were registered 2889 births, 1503 males and 1386 females, equal to a rate of 29·54, almost the same as that of last years, 29·76.

102 of these births were illegitimate, 59 males and 43 females.

Table 1.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1908.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							WARDS. Deaths at all Ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents," or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Bridge.	Paddock.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Hatherton.	Birchills.	Leamore.	Bloxwich.	Walsall Workhouse.		
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	17	1	7	6	2	1	...	...	...	4	5	4	2	1	...	1	1
Whooping-cough	52	20	32	...	...	...	...	5	10	4	10	6	8	3	4	2	7
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	10	3	1	6	...	...	...	1	...	1	3	1	2	2	...	...	...
Group ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever } Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
} Enteric	8	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	1	...	1	3	2	...	...	1	3
} Other continu'd ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	7	...	...	1	...	3	3	1	...	1	1	...	2	...	2	...	1
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	118	81	32	...	...	4	1	16	6	24	6	12	31	12	11	...	1
Enteritis	28	23	4	1	...	...	...	2	2	6	...	...	8	4	5	1	2
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	1
Erysipelas	3	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	145	3	17	3	29	89	4	16	15	18	25	14	26	10	8	13	35	
Other Tuberculous diseases	34	8	11	3	6	6	...	6	6	3	5	2	4	3	4	1	1	
Cancer, malignant disease	61	...	...	1	3	39	18	10	4	6	11	5	9	6	10	...	10
Bronchitis	115	36	4	1	2	27	45	21	15	12	12	9	17	16	11	2	9	
Pneumonia	126	26	45	3	2	37	13	12	12	24	13	12	23	14	15	1	8	
Pleurisy	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	23	10	5	...	...	7	1	4	3	2	1	3	6	3	1	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of liver }	9	...	...	...	...	9	...	1	...	1	2	...	2	1	1	1	4
Venereal diseases	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Premature birth	55	55	...	...	...	...	...	8	2	9	4	7	16	6	2	1	2
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart diseases	118	4	...	6	5	58	45	9	12	24	19	10	12	17	11	4	13	
Accidents	42	10	9	9	3	6	5	2	1	3	6	7	11	8	4	...	22	
Suicides	6	...	...	...	1	4	1	...	2	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	1
Found drowned	8	...	1	...	1	5	1	...	1	2	3	1	...	...	1	...	...
Misadventure	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marasmus	11	9	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	...	1	2	2	...	...
Nephritis	19	...	1	...	...	13	5	1	1	1	3	2	6	2	3	...	1
Rheumatism... ..	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Abortion	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Gangrene	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senile Decay	122	...	...	...	...	3	119	14	13	21	17	16	19	6	7	9	57
All other causes	288	134	15	11	13	79	36	25	33	30	52	27	44	46	24	7	47	
All causes	1446	427	186	52	71	410	300	160	142	201	203	146	256	163	180	45	230	

Table 11.

Vital Statistics of whole district during 1908 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.						Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.							Number	Rate.*
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number	Rate.*							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1898	81,000	2921	36·06	470	160·92	1503	18·55	151	...	...	...	...
1899	83,000	2804	33·78	565	201·49	1617	19·48	158	...	...	...	...
1900	84,000	2858	34·02	560	195·94	1698	20·21	167	...	...	...	...
1901	86,500	2958	34·19	516	174·44	1522	17·59	164	...	...	...	...
1902	87,500	3043	34·77	424	139·33	1421	16·24	160	...	...	...	...
1903	88,500	3054	34·50	462	151·27	1521	17·18	165	...	...	...	...
1904	90,000	3009	33·43	537	178·46	1670	18·55	181	...	...	...	...
1905	92,000	2770	30·10	391	141·15	1338	14·54	181	30	5	1313	14·27		
1906	94,000	2819	29·98	440	155·72	1434	15·25	189	39	5	1400	14·89		
1907	96,000	2857	29·76	432	151·20	1477	15·38	177	31	8	1454	15·14		
Averages for years 1898-1907	88,250	2909	33·05	479	164·99	1420	17·29	169	...	...	...	...
1908	97,778	2889	29·54	427	147·80	1477	15·10	230	39	8	1446	14·78		

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in Acres }
(exclusive of area ... 7358
covered by water... }

Total population of all ages ... 86,430
Number of inhabited houses ... 18,197
Average number of persons per house... 4·75
At Census of 1901

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Walsall Union Workhouse. Walsall and District Hospital.	BIRMINGHAM. General Hospital. Queen's Hospital. Children's Hospital.	BIRMINGHAM: General Hospital. Children's Hospital.
	WOLVERHAMPTON: General Hospital.	WOLVERHAMPTON: General Hospital.

The average birth rate for the last ten years is 33'10

The following table gives the number of births quarterly :—

Registration District.	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.	
	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.
Walsall	288	257	298	247	271	262	304	275
Bloxwich	50	70	67	68	61	59	67	77
Rushall (part in Walsall)	27	13	23	15	24	25	23	18
Totals	365	340	388	330	356	346	394	370

The birth rate for England and Wales during 1908 was 26'5, for the 76 great towns 27'0, and for the 142 smaller towns 26'0.

DEATHS.

There were registered in the Borough during the year 1,477 deaths, giving a rate per 1000 of the population of 15'10. This is exactly the same number as were registered during 1907 which then gave us a death rate of 15'38.

The corrected number of deaths are 1446, with a rate per thousand of 14'78. The average death rate for the last ten years is 17'29, on comparison with which our death rate still keeps low.

Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages of residents belonging to the Borough.

At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.
1446	427	186	52	71	410	300

Quarterly and Annual death rate since 1899 :

Year.	1st quarter.	2nd quarter	3rdquarter	4thquarter	Year.
1899	18.60	16.14	23.90	19.27	19.49
1900	22.90	19.80	20.00	18.14	20.21
1901	18.17	14.47	19.83	17.89	17.59
1902	17.20	17.32	13.45	17.01	16.24
1903	17.12	16.18	16.67	18.75	17.18
1904	19.28	15.20	19.64	20.08	18.55
1905	15.65	14.17	15.34	13.04	14.55
1906	15.34	12.21	16.77	15.24	14.89
1907	15.94	13.97	14.91	15.74	15.14
1908	15.34	12.10	13.99	16.04	14.36

Number of deaths in each of the eight wards, together with their estimated population and death rate :—

Ward.	Estimated Population.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.
Bridge ...	9,465	160	16.90
Paddock ...	11,488	142	12.36
Pleck... ..	13,853	201	15.23
Caldmore ...	18,119	203	11.20
Hatherton ...	10,138	146	14.40
Birchills ...	14,507	256	17.64
Leamore ...	11,458	163	14.22
Bloxwich ..	8,341	130	15.58

This table does not include those persons who, although dying in the Workhouse, or in the Walsall and District Hospital, belonged to districts outside the Borough.

All residents belonging to the Borough dying in these Institutions are included and are each put into the Ward in which they resided.

There are also 45 persons whose deaths are registered as taking place, but of whom no address could be got, excepting Walsall, those deaths, although entered into the Tables for the whole district, could not be classified into Wards. The separate death rate for each Ward is

given in the table, by glancing at which, we are able to see at once in what particular part of the town the highest and the lowest death rate occurred.

Birchills Ward has again the highest death rate, viz.: 17·64, we must take into consideration that this particular part of the Borough is very thickly populated by a poor class of people, the houses are small, many of them back to back, there are numerous courts and alleys, and very few open spaces for ventilation.

Caldmore Ward, on the other hand, having good and comparatively new workman's dwellings with gardens attached, and the neighbourhood supplied with open spaces, has again the lowest death rate, 11·20.

The other six Wards vary in their death rates from 12·36 to 16·90.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

I am sorry I am not able to report any appreciable decrease in the mortality among infants under one year, 427 deaths having taken place this year, shewing a death rate per thousand births of 147·80, against 432 deaths in 1907, with a rate per thousand of 151·20.

This number gives us a death rate of 4·36 per thousand of the whole population against a rate of 4·50 in the preceding year.

The following table gives the deaths in weeks and months, shewing that more than one third, 151 took place in infants under one month.

	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total.
All causes	86	32	19	14	59	39	34	32	26	18	13	12	13	12	18	427

The highest mortality occurred in the Birchills, a thickly populated and poor Ward, and the lowest mortality in the Bridge and Paddock Wards.

	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward.	Pleck Ward.	Caldmore Ward.	Hatherton Ward.	Birchills Ward.	Leamore Ward.	Bloxwich Ward.	Workhouse.	Total.
All causes ...	38	38	65	57	43	94	49	43	—	427

There has been an increase in the number of deaths from Diarrhœa, from 52 during last year to 81 this year, also a very slight increase in the deaths from Convulsions, Tubercular Meningitis and Tubercular Peritonitis. A considerable decrease has taken place in the number of deaths from Premature Birth, from 83 in 1907 to 55 this year, while there is also a decrease in the deaths from Pneumonia, Marasmus and Debility, Enteritis, Meningitis, and Phthisis. Bronchitis and Whooping Cough are answerable for the same number of deaths as last year. This year no deaths from Measles have been recorded.

I should like to note the exceedingly high rate of mortality among illegitimate children, the death rate of these reaching 254·90 per thousand births against a rate of 143·88 in legitimate children.

Table of deaths of infants under one year with the rate per thousand births during the last ten years.

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Births.
1899	565	201·49
1900	560	195·94
1901	516	174·44
1902	424	139·33
1903	462	151·27
1904	537	178·46
1905	391	141·15
1906	440	155·72
1907	432	151·20
1908	427	147·80
Average for 10 years.	475	163·68

Table shewing the diseases prevalent among infants under one year and the number of deaths attributed to those diseases during the past ten years.

	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Diarrhoea ...	107	78	98	54	46	102	64	78	52	81
Convulsions ...	61	109	86	63	57	98	76	33	26	30
Premature Births ...	87	63	67	79	72	52	49	55	83	55
Pneumonia ...	35	49	28	40	43	31	21	37	34	26
Marasmus ...	36	63	50	24	17	25	41	59	53	36
Debility ...	20	25	34	25	34	31				
Enteritis ...	89	27	25	24	30	19	20	35	18	15
Bronchitis ...	40	34	23	29	24	38	18	32	36	36
Meningitis ...	21	8	18	12	7	9	3	6	14	8
Whooping Cough ...	8	25	12	7	17	31	...	15	20	20
Phthisis ...	15	7	5	2	5	7	3	...	9	3
Measles ...	1	15	...	3	...	10	2	...	13	...
Tubercular Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	4	5
Tubercular Peritonitis	5	12	7	8	1	11	5	5	1	2

There are several causes which conduce towards keeping up this high rate of mortality among infants, the principal of which are, ignorance and want of intelligence on the part of the mothers in the management of their children, lack of cleanliness, the use of unsuitable foods, the substitution of bottle for breast feeding, the want of fresh air, especially in the overcrowded and poorer parts of the town, and the want also of proper medical attention in such diseases as measles, whooping cough, etc.

The Notifications of Births Act having only come into operation in the Borough on November the 18th, I have not yet had an opportunity of judging what effect its adoption may have on the lowering of this rate of mortality.

As you are now about to appoint a Lady Health Visitor, whose duty it will be to visit the homes of the poor, after the notification of a birth, and to give advice to those persons responsible as to the management, rearing and nursing of the children, I am hoping that this appointment, in conjunction with the proper working of the Births Act, will be a means towards stemming the tide of infant mortality in the Borough. I am therefore looking forward hopefully to the time when I may give you a more favourable report on this mortality than I am able to do at present.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

By the Zymotic death rate is meant the number of deaths per thousand of the population due to the seven common epidemic diseases.

The number of these cases are as follows:—

	Notified.	Died.	Case fatality per cent.
Small-pox ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	601	17	2·8
Diphtheria ...	70	16	14·2
Typhoid Fever ...	37	8	21·6
Measles ...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	—	52	—
Diarrhœa ...	—	118	—

This gives us a zymotic death rate of 2·09, a little lower than the average rate for the past ten years.

TABLE III.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One
Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES																	
Certified	82	32	19	12	145	59	38	34	32	26	18	13	12	13	12	18	420
Uncertified	4	...	...	2	6	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Common Infectious Diseases—																	
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	...	1	4	2	1	...	1	2	2	20
Diarrhoeal Diseases—																	
Diarrhoea, all form	...	...	...	1	1	10	12	10	10	11	5	6	3	5	3	5	81
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	15
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	1	...	...	1	3	4	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	11
Wasting Diseases—																	
Premature Birth	39	9	2	2	52	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Congenital Defects	17	4	1	2	24	5	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	33
Injury at Birth	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	8	4	5	...	17	6	5	3	2	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	36
Tuberculous Diseases—																	
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	5
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	4
Other Causes—																	
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4
Meningitis(not Tuberculous)	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	2	8
Convulsions	5	5	3	2	15	3	2	1	4	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	30
Bronchitis	...	4	2	2	8	10	...	4	2	4	3	2	1	1	...	1	36
Accidental Suffocation	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	1	2	3	2	1	4	6	...	1	...	3	2	1	3	26
Suffocation, overlying	2	1	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other causes	10	4	5	2	21	4	6	5	1	3	...	...	...	2	...	1	43
Totals	86	32	19	14	151	59	39	34	32	26	18	13	12	13	12	18	427

Borough of Walsall—Population estimated to middle of 1908, 97,778.

Births in the year—legitimate, 2,787; illegitimate, 102.

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 401; illegitimate infants, 26.

Deaths from all causes at all ages, 1,446.

TABLE IV.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Number of Deaths from stated Causes under One Year of Age
in each Ward.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward.	Pleck Ward.	Caldmore Ward.	Hatherton Ward.	Birchills Ward.	Leamore Ward.	Bloxwich Ward.	Walsall Workhouse.	Total deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES.										
Certified ...	38	37	64	57	43	92	47	42	...	420
Uncertified ...	...	1	1	...	..	2	2	1	...	7
Common Infectious Diseases.										
Small-pox ...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	..	...	1
Diphtheria (Including Membranous Croup )	...	...	...	1	..	1	1	...	...	3
Whooping Cough ...	1	6	2	3	1	3	1	3	...	20
Diarrhoeal Diseases.										
Diarrhoea, all form ...	12	3	19	3	11	19	8	6	..	81
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis)	...	1	5	...	...	4	1	4	...	15
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh }	2	2	1	...	...	2	2	2	...	11
Wasting Diseases.										
Premature Birth ...	8	2	9	4	7	16	6	3	...	55
Congenital Defects ...	1	6	1	6	1	6	8	4	...	33
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	3
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation }	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	3	6	5	4	10	2	5	...	36
Tuberculous Diseases.										
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	5
Tuberculous Peritonitis; Tabes Mesenterica }	..	...	...	1	...	...	..	1	...	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	4
Other Causes.										
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ..	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	3
Rickets ..	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	4
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	1	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	8
Convulsions ...	1	2	6	9	4	3	2	3	...	30
Bronchitis ..	7	4	4	4	3	4	4	6	...	36
Accidental Suffocation	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia ...	1	3	6	3	4	6	3	...	...	26
Suffocation, overlying	1	...	1	1	...	2	1	..	...	6
Other Causes	2	2	3	6	7	11	8	4	...	43
Totals	38	38	65	57	43	94	49	43	...	427

Table of deaths from Zymotic Diseases in the various Wards:—

WARDS.

Cause of Death.	Bridge.	Paddock.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Hatherton.	Birchills.	Leamore.	Bloxwich.	Walsall Workhouse.	Totals for the Borough.
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	4	5	4	2	1	..	1	17
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup }	1	...	1	3	1	2	2	...	...	10
Enteric Fever ...	...	1	...	1	3	2	...	...	1	8
Diarrhœa ...	16	6	24	6	12	31	12	11	...	118
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	5	10	4	10	6	8	3	4	2	52
Totals ...	22	17	33	25	26	45	18	15	4	205

Zymotic death rate per thousand per annum for the last ten years.

Cause of Death.	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	·01	·04	...	..	...	...	...
Measles ...	·02	·82	·03	·47	·03	·43	·03	...	·73	..
Scarlet Fever ...	·04	·04	·19	·26	·29	·17	·01	·02	·13	·11
Whooping Cough ...	28	·55	·32	·17	·42	·66	...	·30	·42	·53
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup }	·14	·28	·11	·18	·11	·21	·13	·15	·04	·08
Enteric Fever ...	·16	·15	·13	·26	·22	·08	·04	·12	·13	·08
Diarrhœa ...	1·74	1·02	1·37	·75	·68	1·58	1·09	1·13	1·01	1·20
Totals ..	2·38	2·86	2·15	2·10	1·79	3·13	1·30	1·72	2·46	2·00

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of Infectious disease notified was 771 against 549 reported during the preceding year; 331 in 1906, 352 in 1905, 519 in 1904 and 1161 in 1903.

The increase in the number of notifications this year is due to the epidemic of Scarlet Fever which prevailed particularly during the last few months of the year. The notification of cases of the other infectious diseases remain on the same level as last year.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The following table shews the number of Infectious cases notified during the last ten years:—

1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
435	584	686	800	1161	519	352	331	549	771

Distribution and number of cases notified in the various Wards:—

WARDS.

	Bridge.	Paddock.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Hatherton.	Birchills.	Leamore.	Bloxwich.	Walsall Workhouse.	Walsall & Dis- trict Hospital.	Totals for the Borough.
Small-pox ...	...	...	.	...		.	...	...	...		...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	5	13	36	5	3	5	2	...	.	70
Erysipelas ..	6	3	12	7	8	7	3	6	4	2	58
Scarlet Fever ...	29	73	85	152	74	73	68	41	5	1	601
Enteric Fever ...	1	18		3	3	5	1	3	3	...	37
Puerperal Fever...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	5
Totals ...	38	100	110	198	90	89	77	54	12	3	771

FEES PAID TO MEDICAL MEN.

The Fees paid to Medical Men for Notification Certificates amount to £87 10s., an average of 17/10 per thousand of the population. This increase in the amount paid is due to the large number of notifications of Scarlet Fever.

Tables of fees paid to Medical Men during the last ten years :—

Year.	Amount paid.	Amount per 1000 of population.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1899	51 11 6	0 12 7 $\frac{3}{4}$
1900	61 8 6	0 14 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
1901	80 17 6	0 18 7
1902	87 6 6	0 19 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1903	133 18 0	1 10 3
1904	60 18 0	0 13 6 $\frac{2}{5}$
1905	45 15 0	0 9 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
1906	39 19 0	0 8 6
1907	62 11 0	0 13 1
1908	87 10 0	0 17 10

SMALLPOX.

I am glad to be able to report that no cases of Smallpox occurred in the Borough during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were notified during the year 601 cases of Scarlet Fever, an increase on the number reported in 1907, when we had 368 cases.

Five of the cases were of infants under 1 year, 155 between the ages of 1 and 5, 391 between the ages of 5 and 15, 35 between 15 and 25, and 15 between the ages of 25 and 65.

The epidemic, not confined to any particular part, but general over all the Wards in the Borough, was of a mild nature, only 17 deaths equal to a death percentage of 2·82 on the cases notified being registered, against a percentage last year of 3·5 on cases notified.

One death took place under one year of age, 7 between the the ages of 1 and 5, 6 between 5 and 15, 2 between 15 and 25, and 1 between the ages of 25 and 65. The majority both of cases and deaths occurred between the ages of 1 and 15.

Cases notified in each locality with number of deaths taking place:—

	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward.	Pleck Ward.	Caldmore Ward.	Hatherton Ward.	Birchills Ward.	Leamore Ward.	Bloxwich Ward.	Walsall Workhouse.	Walsall and District Hospital.	Totals
Cases notified	29	73	85	152	74	73	68	41	5	1	601
Deaths ...	...	...	4	5	4	2	1	...	1	...	17

There is not a Hospital in the Borough for the reception of Scarlet Fever cases, but the Health Committee have decided that in the event of any special or unusual case arising in which isolation cannot be properly undertaken at home, the Epidemic Hospital in Sneyd Lane will be available for the purposes of the treatment and isolation of such cases.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Thirty-seven cases of Enteric Fever were notified, practically the same number as we had last year, when 38 cases were reported, 4 were between the ages of 1 and 5, 12 between 5 and 15, 10 between 15 and 25, and 11 between the ages of 25 and 65.

Eight deaths took place, giving a fatality rate of 21·61 per 100 cases notified, a considerable decrease on the death rate for last year which was 34·21 per 100 cases, and in 1906, 28·57.

Three of the deaths were of persons between the ages of 15 and 25, and 5 between the ages of 25 and 65.

Number of cases notified in each locality with the deaths taking place:—

	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward.	Pleck Ward.	Caldmore Ward	Hatherton Ward.	Birchills Ward.	Leamore Ward.	Bloxwich Ward.	Walsall Workhouse	Walsall and District Hospital.	Totals
Cases notified	1	18	...	3	3	5	1	3	3	...	37
Deaths	...	1	...	1	3	2	...	...	1	...	8

Many of the cases assumed a very bad type, especially those occurring in the neighbourhood of Ball Street, from which district 15 were removed to the Hospital in Hospital Street and treated there. Out of that number, 1 death took place, twice during the year the Hospital was opened for Enteric cases, from January 16th to February 28th and from September 28th until the end of year.

DIPHTHERIA.

Seventy cases of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup were notified during the year, 5 of which were under one year, 12 between the ages of 1 and 5, 43 between 5 and 15, 6 between 15 and 25, and 4 between the ages of 25 and 65. Ten deaths took place, 3 under 1 year, 1 between 1 and 5, and 6 between the ages of 5 and 15, giving a percentage of deaths to cases of 14·28. This is an increase on the rate of last year which was 5·7.

Number of cases notified with deaths taking place in each locality.

	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward	Pleck Ward.	Caldmore Ward.	Hatherton Ward	Birchills Ward.	Leamore Ward.	Bloxwich Ward.	Walsall Workhouse.	Totals
Cases notified	1	5	13	36	5	3	5	2	...	70
Deaths	1	...	1	3	1	2	2	...	...	10

As will be seen from the Table, Caldmore has again the highest number of cases notified, 36 with 3 deaths, while Bridge Ward has the lowest number notified, viz.: 1 with 1 death.

Six of the 10 recorded deaths occurred in cases which were not treated with Antitoxin, in the other 4 fatal cases Antitoxin was administered.

The occurrence of death in these treated cases was almost certainly due to the fact that Antitoxin was not administered until too late to be of any service, since it cannot undo the effects already produced by the Toxins formed by the diphtheria bacilli, but can only prevent these Toxins from having any further effect.

It is therefore clear that the earlier the Antitoxin is administered, the greater the chance of the patient recovering, and it would be well if it became a routine practice to administer a dose of Antitoxin in all suspected cases, confirming the diagnosis by a subsequent bacteriological examination.

On the other hand, if the injection is not made until the fifth or sixth day, the toxins will by that time have produced their effect, and the antitoxin cannot be expected to be of much use, while, if used only as a last resort in serious cases, as it so very often is, it is impossible for it to be of the slightest utility whatsoever.

I am therefore of the opinion that the antitoxin treatment if applied at the earliest possible opportunity, will reduce the mortality from this disease to a minimum and I strongly recommend that the present system of supply be continued in the Borough.

TABLE V.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in whole District.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.										No. of cases re- moved to Hospital from each Locality.								
	At all Ages.						At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward.	Caldmore Ward.	Total cases removed to Hospital.
							Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65															65 and upwards.
Small-pox
Cholera
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup
Erysipelas
Scarlet Fever
Typhus Fever
Enteric Fever
Relapsing Fever
Continued Fever
Puerperal Fever
Plague
Totals

Isolation Hospitals:—Enteric Fever Hospital, Hospital St., Walsall; Small-pox Hospital, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were notified 58 cases of Erysipelas, a reduction compared with the preceding year when we had 69 cases. One was under 1 year, 5 between the ages of 5 and 15, 4 between 15 and 25, 35 between 25 and 65, and 13 over 65 years of age.

Three deaths took place, 1 between 5 and 15 years, and 2 over 65 years of age, giving a percentage of deaths to cases notified of 5.17.

Number of cases notified with deaths taking place in each locality.

	Bridge Ward.	Paddock Ward.	Pleck Ward.	Caldmore Ward.	Hatherton Ward.	Birchills Ward.	Leamore Ward.	Bloxwich Ward.	Walsall Workhouse.	Walsall and District Hospital.	Totals
Cases notified	6	3	12	7	8	7	3	6	4	2	58
Deaths	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	3

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Five cases of Puerperal Fever were notified, one between the ages of 15 and 25, and 4 between the ages of 25 and 65, a slight increase on the number of last year when we had 3 cases.

Three deaths took place, all between the ages of 25 and 65, two occurring in Bloxwich Ward and the other in Hatherton Ward.

MEASLES.

As there are no deaths this year, I conclude that this disease has not been prevalent in the Borough. Last year there was a widespread epidemic of Measles, with a mortality of 71.

DIARRHŒA.

Diarrhœa was responsible for 118 deaths, an increase on the number certified last year, viz.: 97. 81 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year of age, 32 between the ages of 1 and 5, 4 between 25 and 65, and 1 over 65 years of age. Deaths were recorded in each Ward in the Borough, the highest number, 31 being in Birchills Ward, and the lowest 6 in Paddock and Caldmore Wards.

The mortality was greatest among infants under one year and was due to the hot weather we experienced during the months of August, September and October and to the want of cleanliness and care of the children in the poorer districts of the town.

Especially among those children who are bottle fed do we find the highest mortality from this disease, as a small amount of infection will set up diarrhœa among badly nourished bottle fed children, compared with the children who are breast fed. This extends to diseases whether infectious or non-infectious, throughout child life and I therefore cannot press too strongly the importance of breast over bottle feeding.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Judging by the number of deaths recorded from Whooping Cough, there must have been quite an epidemic not confined to any particular district as the deaths were distributed over every Ward in the Borough, 52 deaths took place, 20 under one year and 32 between the ages of 1 and 5; a great increase on the number last year, when we had 41 deaths, while in 1906 there were 29 deaths. This gives us a death rate per 1000 of '53. Paddock and Caldmore Wards were responsible for the highest number each having 10 deaths, the lowest number (3) occurring in Leamore Ward.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were registered 145 deaths from Phthisis or Tuberculosis of the lungs and 34 from Tubercular disease of other parts of the body, an increase on the number registered last year which was 120 and 27 respectively. This gives us a death rate for Phthisis of 1·48 per thousand of the population against a rate of 1·25 in 1907, and from the other form of Tubercular disease a rate of ·34 per thousand against ·28 in the preceding year.

The deaths from this disease took place in every Ward, the highest being recorded in Caldmore and Birchills with 30 deaths each, and the lowest in Bloxwich with 12 deaths.

There is no system of compulsory notification of Tuberculosis in operation in Walsall. There is however, a special register kept at the Health Office in which all the cases ending fatally are entered.

On the receipt of each death, the Sanitary Inspectors visit the house and disinfect it thoroughly.

In the treatment of Phthisis it is essential that the patient should have an ample supply of fresh air day and night, living as much as possible in the open. Cleanliness should be insisted upon, and it is also necessary that the patient should have plenty of good food. If these matters were properly attended to, I am sure the risk of infection in this disease from case to case would be much minimised.

CANCER.

The deaths from Cancer remain about the same as last year, 61 being recorded this year against 59 in 1907; thus giving us a death rate of ·62 per thousand of the population.

One of the deaths occurred between the ages of 5 and 15, 3 between 15 and 25, 39 between 25 and 65 and 18 over 65 years of age.

The deaths were distributed all over the Borough, the highest number 26 taking place in Birchills Ward, while the lowest number number 8 took place in Bloxwich Ward.

ALCOHOLISM.

There is a decrease this year in the number of deaths from Alcoholism, 9 being recorded against 14 in 1907 and 17 in 1906. This gives us a rate per thousand of the population of '09. Deaths were recorded in each of the Wards with the exception of Paddock and Hatherton.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.

One hundred and twenty-seven Inquests were held in the Borough during the year, viz.: 44 men, 22 women and 53 children under 16 years of age, 61 were found to have died from natural causes, 8 were found drowned, 6 suicides, 1 stillborn and 51 accidental deaths.

MIDWIVES' ACT.

There are 42 registered Midwives in the Borough and these have attended during the year 1503 births.

The Midwives are now personally much cleaner than they used to be, the majority wear uniform and carry a bag containing all the appliances necessary for an ordinary labour.

Last year I had to speak very seriously to them about the slipshod manner in which some of them kept their case books, more especially those who were illiterate and who had to depend upon a friend to do their clerical work.

This year I am glad to say shews a great improvement in the keeping of those books, the majority of the mid-wives now realizing the necessity for keeping them in a strictly efficient manner.

Three Mid-wives were suspended on account of Puerperal Fever, against 2 suspended in the previous year.

This year and last shews a marked improvement in the number of these suspensions, as we had 6 and 12 respectively in the two preceding years.

There is no doubt this decrease is due to the Mid-wives being now more up-to-date in the matter of personal cleanliness and also to more care being taken to wash and disinfect their hands while in the discharge of their duties.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Owing to the appointment during the year of a Medical Inspector of Schools, who will in her Annual Report give a detailed account of the examination of the children, and of the various diseases from which she found them suffering, I have not, excepting, so far as concerned the sanitary conditions, had as much to do in connection with the Schools as I had in the previous year.

The general hygienic conditions of the Schools are good, they are well ventilated, well lighted and warmed, have good sanitary conveniences and lavatories and a plentiful supply of water for drinking and washing purposes.

With regard to the detection and prevention of the spread of Infectious disease, the Health Department is in daily communication with that of the School Medical Inspector, each day a copy of all notifications of Infectious diseases relating to School Children, being sent on to the Medical Inspector.

All children found suffering from Infectious disease are immediately kept at home from School and isolated, while disinfectants for the use of the home are supplied during the course of the disease.

During the year a great many cases of Scarlet Fever occurred among School Children, but as these cases were generally of a mild type and none of the schools proved a source of infection, I did not think it necessary to resort to the extreme measure of closing the schools.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital in Hospital Street was open for nearly five months, during the course of the year, from January 16th to February 28th and from September 28th to end of year.

Seventeen cases of Enteric Fever were treated there, 2 of which terminated fatally. The majority of these cases were brought from Ball Street, where rather a serious outbreak of Enteric occurred, this, fortunately confining itself to the two houses from which the patients were removed to the Hospital.

The cost for nursing, food, washing, etc., was £98 6s. 1d. an average of £5 15s. 7d. per case treated.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The total number of visits and inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors in the course of the year were 24,194 against 25,827 in the preceding year.

This number includes inspections of dwelling-houses, workshops, factories, homes of outworkers slaughter-houses, bakehouses, fish yards, dairies, re-inspections of work for abatement of nuisances and visits to infected houses, but does not include visits paid to courts and alleys.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTIONS.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of house-to-house inspections owing to the increase in the Notifications of Infectious Disease, all such cases having been visited by the Inspectors and the infected houses fumigated and disinfected and also to the fact that, as a change of Inspectors took place we were without our full compliment of men for about ten weeks in the year, 8,524 inspections were made against 9,847 in 1907.

I should like to have been able to say that the Inspectors had made a complete house-to-house inspection, but that is quite impossible, as, with our present staff, it would take about three years to visit all the houses in the Borough.

The following table gives a summary of the visits made:—

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
Inspections of Dwelling-houses	3073	2050	3401	8524
" Workshops (not including Bakehouses) ...	527	433	248	1208
Inspections of Factories ...	24	5	18	47
" Homes of Outworkers	92	212	71	375
" Slaughter-houses ...	662	539	778	1979
" Bakehouses ...	171	117	118	406
" Fishyards ..	143	165	141	449
" Dairies ...	244	348	299	891
Total Inspections	4936	3869	5074	13879
Visits to Infected Houses ...	624	1040	596	2260
Re-inspections of work for abatement of Nuisances ...	2931	2702	2422	8055
Total visits and Inspections ...	8491	7611	8092	24194

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

The following table shews the work done in connection with the substitution of water closets for old privies, and the reconstruction of house drains, with the number of

traps, drain ventilating shafts and inspection chambers provided.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
No. of old privies dispensed with and water closets substituted	42	92	90	224
New drain pipes, yards in lengths	680	2125	1187	3992
No. of syphon gully traps ...	103	151	96	340
No. of drain ventilating shafts ...	27	59	44	130
No. of inspection chambers ..	28	61	44	133

The old type of brick or quarry sink in cottage property is being gradually replaced with sinks made of glazed earthenware fitted with a glazed waste pipe discharging on to a channel in the open air. In the table below, we see the number of sanitary sinks fitted during the last eight years.

Year.	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Totals.
1901	22	10	27	59
1902	66	101	92	259
1903	204	85	157	446
1904	130	70	126	326
1905	101	41	77	219
1906	42	61	58	161
1907	52	46	78	176
1908	41	67	47	155

The perforated covers over the man-holes of the sewers at the street level have been done away with in all cases where a smell was detected and ventilating shafts erected in suitable positions.

SANITARY PROSECUTIONS.

Before instituting legal proceedings against any person for non-abatement of a nuisance, every opportunity is afforded him of carrying out the work of nuisance abatement before a summons is taken out. The defaulter is

written to, interviewed or met by appointment, and it is only after all those methods have failed that magisterial proceedings are resorted to.

No summons for non-abatement of nuisance has been taken out this year.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

No householder is required to empty his own ashpit; this is done by the Borough Surveyor's Department. The ashpits are made small, the floors level with the yard, they are frequently emptied and disinfected with carbolic powder. In some parts of the Borough, galvanized iron bins are used for the house refuse and are emptied weekly or fortnightly.

A great want would be met if we had a destructor to consume the ashes and rubbish from the houses.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

A scheme has been passed by the Council and will be proceeded with as soon as possible for the laying of Bacteriological Beds, which will take the place of the old land filtration.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

There are in the Borough three-fourths water closets, and only in the outlying parts where there are no means of sewage disposal do we have privies which cannot be converted into water closets. These outlying parts comprise Coalpool, Goscote, Harden, Little Bloxwich, Sneyd Lane and Broad Lane, Bloxwich.

These privies are regularly emptied, so as to minimise as far as possible any nuisance arising therefrom.

The work of draining a portion of Wolverhampton Road from Pargeter St. to the Borough Boundary was

completed in August, all privies belonging to the houses draining into this new sewer are now converted into water closets, nothing further has been done in Darlaston Road towards substituting water closets for the existing privies at those houses drained to the sewer in 1907.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are twenty-three common lodging-houses in the Borough containing 133 rooms registered as sleeping apartments and accommodating 491 persons.

These houses are supervised by the Police, who on receiving a satisfactory report from me, take notice of the suitability of the premises and look after the sanitary condition of these common lodging-houses.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

These houses are now under the same regulations as govern the common lodging-houses, excepting that the room must be taken for 1 week. They are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors.

OVERCROWDING.

Twenty-four cases of overcrowding were reported this year, against 36 in the preceding year.

This number does not really include all the cases of overcrowding, only the worst, as owing to bad trade, it was not thought advisable in some cases to enforce the law, therefore several cases have been kept in abeyance.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Forty-three slaughter-houses are in use, 24 of which are registered, having been in use previous to the passing of the Public Health Act, 1875 and 19 are licensed, 12 for a period of one year. Weekly inspections are made to see that the bye-laws are complied with and the meat prepared is wholesome.

There has been a general improvement in the condition of the slaughter-houses during the last three years, the occupiers now realize that it is greatly to their benefit to keep the slaughter-house and its surroundings in a sanitary condition.

In some of the older slaughter-houses which have been in existence for some time there is still to be noticed a want of ventilation and free air space in their vicinity.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 69 bakehouses to which 406 visits have been made by the Inspectors during the year. These bakehouses are all in a fairly sanitary condition, while some of them are very good.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Regulations which came in force in 1907, with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, have improved the conditions under which milk is produced, distributed and sold. We have a good and plentiful supply coming into and produced within the Borough.

Before registering any new premises for the sale of milk, care is taken to see that the room intended for use in Milk storage complies with the Regulations. If it does not registration is refused.

There are 39 cow-keepers in the Borough, having 415 cows. These are visited by the Inspectors during the year, who have found the conditions of the sheds to be fairly good

Great care ought to be taken at the time of milking to have the udder and teats of the cow thoroughly clean, also the hands of the person who may be milking, clean and free from all infection and contamination.

There are 208 milk sellers, who are all visited by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Every vessel, receptacle or utensil used for containing milk for sale must, after use, be thoroughly cleansed with steam or boiling water and must be maintained in a constant state of cleanliness.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

One hundred and forty-three samples were submitted to the Borough Analyst for Analysis, under the above Acts, 21 of which were found to be adulterated.

Action under Section 117 of Public Health Act 1875.

Part of a carcase of a cow suffering from Tuberculosis was condemned and destroyed.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There are 708 workshops on the Register, each of which has been visited; 1208 inspections were made excluding visits to Bakehouses. Four complaints were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, each complaint was remedied. H.M. Inspector of Factories sent notices of 63 newly occupied workshops and 17 newly occupied workshops and 106 removals were reported by the Sanitary Inspectors.

The Workshops and Work Places include Laundries, Confectioners, Bakehouses, Dressmakers, Bootmakers, Tailor and Milliner's Rooms, etc.

This work is performed in each district where the workshop is situated by the Inspector to whom that district is allotted.

They report on :—

Ventilation.

Cleanliness of Floors and Walls.

Lighting.

Water Closet Provision and overcrowding.

A careful look out is kept that no work connected with Clothing is done in any house infected with notifiable disease.

The following is a list of the trades carried on in the workshops in the Borough :—

Description of Trade.	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Totals.
Awl Blade Makers ... ..	...	1	9	10
Basket Makers ... ..	...	2	...	2
Bakers	16	24	17	57
Bit, Stirrup and Spur Makers ...	8	6	21	35
Blacksmiths	3	5	4	12
Brass Dressers	5	...	...	5
Brush Makers	1	3	2	6
Boot and Shoe Makers	5	12	10	27
Cart Gear, Hames, Spring Bar and Curb Makers	12	15	3	30
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers ...	6	7	3	16
Chasers	2	3	2	7
Chain Makers	6	2	4	12
Curriers	4	5	..	9
Cycle Makers	2	5	2	9
Coach Builders and Wheelwrights	5	2	5	12
Dress Makers	17	25	6	48
Fancy Leather Goods and Purse Makers	8	10	3	21
File Cutters	3	...	4	7
Harness, Bridle and Horse Collar Makers	34	27	6	67
Harness Furniture and Spring Hook Makers	5	7	5	17
Joiners	9	9	3	21
Lock and Key Smiths ... ..	...	3	4	7
Milliners	8	3	12	23
Platers	14	18	...	32
Plumbers	2	2	...	4
Saddlers, Whip and Horse Clothing Makers	34	23	7	64
Saddle Tree Makers	5	3	...	8
Saddlers' Tool Makers	1	3	1	5
Tailors	15	28	6	49
Miscellaneous	30	37	19	86
Totals	260	290	158	708

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR 1908 FOR THE

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL,

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES & HOMEWORK.

1—INSPECTION.

MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including FactoryLaundries)	47	6	...
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries) ...	1614	172	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total ...	1661	178	...

2—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			No. of Pro- secutions.
	Found.	Reme- died.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—^a				
Want of cleanliness	166	166	...	...
Want of ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	6	6	...	...
b Sanitary accommodation	insufficient ... ..	...	...	...
	unsuitable or defective	6	...	...
	not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other offences ... ..	...	...	...	...
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total	178	178	...	...

^a Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Work-
shop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

^b For districts not in London, state here whether section 22 of the Public Health
Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted by the District Council ; and if so what
standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons em-
ployed in factories and workshops has been enforced.

3—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.												Inspections of Outworkers' premises.	Outwork in Unwholesome premises Section 108			Outwork in Infected Premises, Sections 109, 110		
	Lists received from Employers.						Addresses of Outworkers.		Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.		Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made, S. 110	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).	
	Summary Twice in the Year.			Summary Once in the Year.			Received from other Councils.	Forwarded to other Councils.		Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.								
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.														
		Contractors.	Workmen.		Contractors.	Workmen.													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Wearing Apparel—																			
1—Making, &c. ...	36	18	213	2	—	2	3	8	—	—	—	249	5	5	—	1	—	—	
2—Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Artificial flowers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Nets, other than wire nets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Sacks ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Furniture and upholstery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Fur pulling ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Feather sorting ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Umbrellas, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Paper bags and boxes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Basket making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Brush making ...	12	—	67	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	70	2	2	—	—	—	—	
Racquet and tennis balls ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Stuffed toys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
File making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Electro-plate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cables and chains ...	6	3	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Anchors and grapnels ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cart gear ...	2	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Locks, latches and keys ...	4	4	6	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pea Picking ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total ...	60	25	318	2	—	2	4	11	—	—	—	375	9	9	—	1	—	—	

4—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

5—OTHER MATTERS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year		Class.	
1	2	1	2
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop-bakehouses may be enumerated here.	Bakehouses ...	Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
	Saddlery Trades ...	Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) — — — —	
	Tailors, Dressmakers, Milliners ...	Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) :—	
	Others ...	Notified by H.M. Inspector — — — —	
	Total number of workshops on Register ...	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector — — — —	
		Other — — — —	
		Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
		Certificates granted during the year — — — —	
		In use at the end of the year — — — —	

TABLE VI.
Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1908 and previous years.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Names of Localities.		1. Whole District.				2. Bridge Ward.				3. Paddock Ward.			
Year.		Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year
1905	...	<i>a.</i> 92000	<i>b.</i> 2770	<i>c.</i> 1313	<i>d.</i> 387	<i>a.</i> 9355	<i>b.</i> ...	<i>c.</i> 115	<i>d.</i> 27	<i>a.</i> 10962	<i>b.</i> ...	<i>c.</i> 116	<i>d.</i> 37
1906	...	94000	2819	1400	439	9255	...	137	34	11196	...	153	43
1907	...	96000	2857	1454	432	9278	..	157	34	10626	...	126	35
1908	...	97778	2889	1446	427	9465	...	160	38	11488	...	142	38
		4. Pleck Ward.				5. Caldmore Ward.				6. Hatherton Ward.			
1905	...	12574	...	177	66	16912	...	191	51	10051	...	125	40
1906	...	13059	...	180	60	17200	...	211	60	9970	...	166	67
1907	..	13578	..	224	67	17970	...	195	59	10180	...	172	50
1908	...	13853	...	201	65	18119	...	203	57	10138	...	146	43
		7. Birchills Ward.				8. Leamore Ward.				9. Bloxwich Ward.			
1905	...	13786	...	191	79	9970	...	129	50	8311	...	114	32
1906	...	13690	...	256	96	10830	...	148	48	8383	...	117	31
1907	...	14383	...	286	102	11321	...	159	39	8513	...	108	41
1908	...	14507	...	256	94	11458	...	163	49	8341	...	130	43
		10. Walsall Workhouse.				11. Walsall and District Hospital.							
1905	...	...	...	119	7	...	...	36	2				
1906	...	...	...	31	...	...	...	1	...				
1907	...	...	...	27	5	...	...	...	...
1908	...	...	...	45	...	...	...	...	...

N.B.—The deaths for 1908 in the columns No. 10 and 11 are of residents whose previous place of abode is not known, and therefore they could not be entered into the localities mentioned in columns No. 2 to 9 inclusive.

County Borough of Walsall.
—1908.—

Area, 7,358 acres.	Estimated Population, 97,778.	
Average No. of Persons per acre	...	13.28
Death Rate	...	14.78
No. of Deaths of Children under 1 year	...	427
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	...	118
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	...	771
Divided into each of the Eight Wards of the Borough.		



BLOXCH WARD.

Area, 1,534 ac.	Est. Pop., 8341.
No. of Persons per acre	5
Death Rate	15.58
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	43
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	11
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	54

LEAMORE WARD.

Area, 1,938 acres.	Est. Pop., 11,458
No. of Persons per acre	5
Death Rate	14.22
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	49
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	12
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	77

HATHERTON WARD.

Area, 424 acres.	Est. Pop., 10,138.
No. of Persons per acre	23
Death Rate	14.40
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	43
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	12
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	90

BIRCHILLS WARD.

Area, 220 acres.	Est. Pop., 14,507.
No. of Persons per acre	65
Death Rate	17.64
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	94
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	31
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	89

BRIDGE WARD.

Area, 193½ acres.	Est. Pop., 9,465.
No. of Persons per acre	48
Death Rate, 16.90	
No. of Deaths from Children under One year, 38	
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea, 16	
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified, 38	

PADDOCK WARD.

Area, 1,331 acres.	Est. Pop., 11,488
No. of Persons per acre	8
Death Rate	12.36
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	38
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	6
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	100

PLECK WARD.

Area, 826½ acres.	Est. Pop., 13,853
No. of Persons per acre	16
Death Rate	15.23
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	65
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	24
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	110

CALDMORE WARD.

Area, 881 acres.	Est. Pop., 18,119.
No. of Persons per acre	20
Death Rate	11.20
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	57
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	6
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	198

HOME-WORK.

There are, as far as can be ascertained, 32 occupiers of Factories or worksohps who give work out. Lists have been received from these employers, giving the names of 174 persons to whom work is given, these have been visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, 375 inspections having been made in the course of the year.

MAP.

A Map is appended giving the area, population, number of persons per acre, death rate, number of deaths of infants under one year, number of deaths from Diarrhœa and the number of cases of Infectious Disease in each of the eight Wards.

By the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, I hope to be able next year to give the birth rate in each Ward in the Borough.

MARKETS.

The markets have been carefully visited every week, the Inspectors taking this inspection in turn.

RAINFALL DURING 1908.

January	...	·64	July	...	2·19
February	...	1·36	August	...	3·14
March	...	3·19	September	...	1·72
April	...	2·69	October	...	2·06
May	...	4·10	November	...	2·30
June	...	2·12	December	...	2·19
					<hr/> 27·70

I have to acknowledge the whole-hearted service given by the staff of my department and to thank them for their ready and cordial co-operation, without which it would have been impossible to have done such a large amount of work.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, also the Council for the kind consideration shewn to me.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

James Wilson-Scott

~~JAMES WILSON-SCOTT~~, M.D., D.P.H., F.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the Borough of Walsall,
for the year ending December 31st, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit to you a Report for the year 1908, giving particulars of the work performed under your direction by the Inspectorial Staff of the Health Department, this being the Eleventh Annual Report which I have had the honour of submitting as Chief Sanitary Inspector.

CHANGES IN THE STAFF,

Messrs. Rawling and Large, after a little over four years' service, resigned in March to take up positions elsewhere as Inspectors of Nuisances, and on April 27th Messrs. Hudson and Harris commenced duties as Assistant Inspectors.

The changes affected the work of the department somewhat for a time, but nevertheless good progress has been made, and each Inspector has done useful and satisfactory work.

MONTHLY REPORTS.

In June a change in the form of reporting was adopted, lists giving the nuisances visited, and a summary of inspections being forwarded to each member of the Health Committee on the Saturday preceding their Meeting.

This has proved of great help as the members of the Health Committee, having the full information of the months' work, are able to call attention to any matter coming to their notice which does not appear in the Reports.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT.

In compiling the Report I have followed the same forms as in previous years, giving full information for each district separately in the various tables.

The number of Nuisances dealt with is in excess of those in 1907, viz.:—1963, as compared with 1823.

Seventy-two remained unabated at the end of the year, of this number the majority were those reported at the December Meeting.

Magisterial
Proceedings.

During the year I have not applied for a summons against any person for non-abatement of nuisance. Remedial measures have been obtained by means of notices to, or personal interviews with those responsible, or by written intimation to the persons in default after you had given instructions for the institution of legal proceedings.

Notices to
Occupiers.

Owners of small house property frequently propound the query, "Why don't you look after the tenants?" I would therefore point out that of 2082 notices served no less than 650 were given to occupiers of premises. In addition to this the Sanitary Inspectors, when making an inspection, call the attention of the tenant to any matter for which he is responsible.

Three written complaints only have been received, and two of these were with reference to the same factory, in connection with which a Statutory notice was given and the nuisance was abated.

Smoke
Nuisances.

DRAINAGE WORK.

The work of laying new drains and conversion of privies into water-closets is carefully inspected before being passed. Where defects are noted they usually arise from lack of attention to detail, for instance, every care may be taken by the workman in laying a drain so as to be water-tight and self-cleansing, but he may have his inspection chamber badly planned and the benching arranged so that there is frequent fouling of the floor or walls of the chamber, the connection between gully and drain may be half made, and that between the pan and trap of a water-closet be made with clay only, the ventilating shaft may have only the first joint made. In the fitting of a sanitary sink the waste pipe may be a few inches short, and either is not brought up to the outlet, or otherwise it discharges through the external wall at such a height as to splash over the yard pavement each time water is thrown down. These are a few among the most common faults met with, and which the Inspector must see remedied before passing the work.

A reference to Table 2 will show the amount of structural alterations effected in connection with house drainage and sanitary accommodation.

Sanitary
Work.

The sanitary condition of dwellings in Wolverhampton Road, from Pargeter Street to the Borough Boundary, has materially improved with the provision of a sewer. Notices were issued to property owners in March requiring them to make covered drains for draining their properties, and also to substitute water-closets for the privies, with the result that 53 houses were drained to the

Wolver-
hampton Road
Drainage.

sewer, and water-closets provided to replace the insanitary privies. In addition to this sanitary sinks were substituted, and the houses were nearly all overhauled and efficiently repaired, so that, at the end of the year, the houses in that portion of the road were in a good sanitary state.

House Repair.

The condition of houses has not been neglected ; 388 houses have been specially dealt with. In 84 cases the houses were repaired and cleansed throughout, 230 have had dampness arising from absence of sufficient spouting or leaking roofs remedied, 64 have been cleansed, white-washed and purified, and ten were closed.

There are throughout the Borough a number of houses unoccupied which are in bad repair, but as there is a probability that these houses will not be re-occupied, no action at present is being taken, except that the owners are communicated with and requested to board up windows and doors so as to prevent children getting access to those houses.

Drain Testing.

In 70 instances drain tests have been made, viz.: 28 in No. 1 District, 28 in No. 2 District, and 14 in No. 3 District ; in 47 cases defects were found. In one case it was necessary to take action under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and open the ground for examining private drains, these were found defective.

The smoke test has been applied at 31 premises where illness has occurred. In 14 cases there was Enteric or Typhoid Fever, in 3 cases Diphtheria, and in 14 instances other illnesses, chiefly septic sore throats. Twenty-five of the drains were faulty, and in 6 cases no defects were found. As an illustration of a small defect being responsible for illness, I would mention a case where several members of a family suffered from septic sore throats, which recurred from time to time for about two years.

The drains were tested in February but no defect was located. Attention was then called to the sink waste pipe which was found faulty and permitting soakage. This was immediately repaired, and on enquiry at the house some ten months afterwards I was informed that the symptoms of sore throat had not again developed in any member of the family.

SANITATION IN THE BIRCHILLS WARD.

I submitted to you in May a Special Report relative to the sanitation of the Birchills Ward, and the suggestions made were approved and carried into effect. A great improvement was made in nearly every court in that Ward, privies were substituted by water-closets, additional gullies were provided for receiving house drainage, accumulations of manure and trade and house refuse were specially removed, sanitary conveniences used in common by occupants of two or more houses were kept more cleanly, most of the water-closets and wash-houses were lime washed, houses were frequently cleansed, and 31 houses were lime washed throughout by the occupiers. The Sanitary Inspector (A. E. Harris) devoted the greater part of his time to this Ward from June to September, and for maintaining any improvement which may have been obtained it will be necessary for close attention to be paid to similar matters during the current year.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The improvement reported last year following the coming into force of Regulations has continued. The premises of seven persons who made application for registration were unsuitable, in each case the application was refused and was withdrawn.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, OUT-WORKERS.

Factories. Inspections are made at Factories on receipt of complaint of any nuisance in connection with sanitary conveniences, or with the water supply.

Workshops. Each workshop in the Borough has been visited and generally the conditions are satisfactory, with the exception of lime washing. It has been necessary in 174 cases to call attention to this.

Out-Workers. The homes of outworkers are visited at least twice annually, and generally speaking are satisfactory. Two cases of Infectious Disease were notified in houses in which work connected with wearing apparel was taken in. In each case information was given to the employers. In one case (Diphtheria) work was suspended until the house was certified free from infection, and in the other case (Scarlet Fever) a room in an unoccupied house was taken, and the work was done there until the home of the out-worker was certified to be free from infection.

Special Reports relative to home-workers were presented in March and September.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Work in connection with notifiable disease has been heavy, due to the increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. 744 houses have been fumigated as compared with 437 in 1907.

1,358 notices in relation to infectious disease have been given to schools.

Tables are given showing streets where infectious disease was notified, and giving the number of cases.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

In compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Board a Quarterly Return is made showing the number of samples, and action taken relative to adulterated samples. A copy of this return is also sent to the Board of Agriculture.

The Annual Report is to be found commencing on page 69.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

Under these Acts 107 boats were examined, of which 98 complied with the Acts and Regulations, see report page 73.

LODGING-HOUSES.

Six houses let in lodgings have been registered. In these houses there were 24 rooms, accommodating 46 lodgers.

There are now on the Register 13 houses let in lodgings containing 39 rooms and accommodating 72 lodgers.

These houses have been visited from time to time to see that the Bye-Laws are complied with.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITALS.

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals at Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, and Hospital Street, have been visited as occasion required by the Hospital's Sub-Committee, and their instructions have been carried into effect. The Hospital at Sneyd Lane has been closed since February 21st, 1905. The caretaker keeps the bedding and clothing well aired, and a ward can be made ready for use at any time on giving one hour's notice.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

No. of dwelling houses examined as to their Sanitary condition	...	...	...	...	8524
No. of Inspections of Workshops...	...	...	...	...	1208
„ „ Factories (with regard to Sanitary conveniences)	...	...	...	...	47
No. of Inspections of Homes of Out-workers	...	...	...	...	375
„ „ Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1979
„ „ Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	406
„ „ Fishyards	...	...	...	...	449
„ „ Dairies, or Cow Sheds, or Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	891
No. of Inspections of work proceeding for abatement of nuisances after notice	...	...	...	...	8055
No. of Visits to houses in which Infectious Disease occurred	...	...	...	...	2260
No. of Samples of Water obtained	...	...	...	...	37
„ „ under the sale of Food and Drugs Acts	...	...	...	...	145
No. of Canal Boats Inspected	...	...	...	...	107
„ Fumigations after notifiable disease	...	...	...	...	622
„ „ „ Phthisis	...	...	...	...	122
Total recorded visits					25,227
No. of Complaints received	...	...	...	...	265
„ Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	1891
„ Cases of Infectious Disease notified...	...	...	...	...	771

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE, Cert. Royal San. Inst.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Health Department,
Council House,
Walsall,
January, 1909,

Table 1.

Number of informal notices given for Nuisances, and other matters visited and reported by the Sanitary Inspectors.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
To remedy defective drains, water closets, privies and ashpits ...	233	279	286	798
„ repair sinks and fix waste pipes...	56	66	69	191
„ „ urinals ...	3	4	3	10
„ „ manure pits ...	...	1	1	2
„ cleanse ditches or cesspools ...	2	3	17	22
„ remove stagnant water in cellars	3	6	6	15
„ cleanse soft water cisterns ...	8	9	1	18
„ remove offensive accumulations	14	13	13	40
„ abate nuisance from the keeping of animals or poultry ...	35	22	35	92
„ furnish statement for registration of lodging houses ...	...	2	...	2
„ repair dwelling-houses...	54	39	64	157
„ „ or fix rain water spoutings	33	22	19	74
„ whitewash, purify and cleanse dwelling-houses or parts thereof	19	28	36	83
„ reduce overcrowding in dwelling-houses ...	8	5	11	24
„ lay concrete floor in slaughterhouse	1	...	1	2
„ lime-wash, purify and cleanse workshops ...	76	62	38	176
„ lime-wash slaughterhouses, cow-sheds or bakehouses (postcards to occupiers) ...	10	5	22	37
„ repair workshop roofs ...	2	...	...	2
„ abate nuisance from black smoke ...	...	1	...	1
„ „ caused by emission of “Mond” gas or “coal” gas...	1	...	1	2
„ abate nuisance from generating plant of gas engine ...	...	1	...	1
„ provide drains sufficient for effectual drainage ...	2	28	1	31
„ provide water closets, privies or ashpits ...	3	...	2	5
„ provide drinking water ...	5	2	3	10
„ fix slaughterhouse sign ...	...	...	1	1
Carried forward ...	568	598	630	1796

Table I.—*continued.*

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
Brought forward	568	598	630	1796
To open ground and examine drains under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875	5	11	...	16
Notices served under Walsall Corporation Act, 1890:				
To pave back yards	18	25	10	53
„ disconnect sink, bath, lavatory, or rain waste pipes from sewer ...	1	2	3	6
„ cleanse water closets or privies (notice to tenants)	76	32	52	160
To SURVEYOR:—				
Alleged dangerous buildings, wells or cisterns	27	3	13	43
Insufficient water supply ...	3	...	1	4
Buildings erected without plans ...	1	1	...	2
Insufficient closet accommodation at workshop or factory ...	1	1	..	2
Total ...	700	673	709	2082
To cleanse ashpits				7439
				9521
No. of nuisances remaining on books December 31st, 1907	21	18	43	82
No. of nuisances reported during the year	612	631	638	1881
Total	633	649	681	1963
No. of Nuisances removed during the year	620	612	659	1891
No. of nuisances remaining on books December 31st, 1908	13	37	22	72
No. of re-inspections of nuisances ...	2931	2702	2422	8055

In 376 cases statutory notices were served owing to the nuisances remaining unabated after the time specified in the informal notices had expired, viz., 95 in No. 1 District; 122 in No. 2 District; and 159 in No. 3 District.

Table II.

Alterations made, and new Structures provided in compliance with notices.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of old privies converted into water closets	42	92	90	224
New drains (yards in length) ...	680	2125	1187	3992
No. of drain traps ...	103	151	96	340
„ ventilating shafts ...	27	59	44	130
„ inspection chambers ...	28	61	44	133
„ new pans in water closets ...	16	28	28	72
„ new traps in water closets ...	24	11	10	45
„ water closets repaired ...	61	32	14	107
„ privies repaired ...	5	12	26	43
„ ashpits repaired ...	13	16	11	40
„ ashpits roofed ...	9	17	20	46
„ urinals repaired ...	2	1	4	7
„ yards paved or re-paved ...	27	69	7	103
„ drains cleared ...	71	55	80	206
„ water closets cleared ...	54	44	48	146
„ new sanitary sinks ...	41	67	47	155
„ sinks fitted with sink tubes ...	60	86	53	199
„ sink, bath, lavatory waste or rain pipes disconnected from sewer	1	3	4	8
No. of new water closets ...	7	22	10	39
„ new soil pipes ...	1	2	...	3
„ new privies ...	...	...	2	2
„ new ashpits ...	...	5	2	7
„ new urinals ...	2	1	...	3
„ new cesspools for drainage ...	...	1	...	1
„ new mauure pits ...	...	2	...	2
„ cellar drains disconnected ...	1	16	7	24
„ privies demolished and removed	...	11	7	18
„ ashpits „ „	1	1	...	2
„ urinals „ „	2	1	...	3
„ houses drained to sewer ...	...	53	...	53
„ cowsheds drained to covered cesspool ..	...	1	...	1
„ soil pipes removed from interior to exterior of dwelling-house	1	...	...	1
„ intercepting traps ...	5	27	5	37
„ houses having drains re-laid to sewer ...	6	1	6	13
„ water closets having flushing cisterns provided...	12	7	4	23

Table II.—*continued.*

Result of Notices requiring Dwelling Houses to be rendered
fit for human habitation.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of houses closed voluntarily by owner	4	6	...	10
„ houses repaired and cleansed throughout	44	29	11	84
„ houses having had roofs re- paired and spoutings fixed	82	76	72	230
„ houses cleansed and lime- washed by occupiers ...	11	20	33	64
„ wash-houses repaired ...	...	15	17	32
„ new wash-houses provided ...	2	...	...	2
„ damp courses provided ...	1	1	...	2

ADDRESSES OF HOUSES CLOSED VOLUNTARILY BY OWNERS.

Nos. 40 Hill Street ; 29, 30, 31 The Ditch ; 408, 410, 412,
414, 416 and 420 Parkbrook, Wolverhampton Road.

HOUSE REPAIRED AND RE-OPENED.

One house, viz.: 7 house 8 court Stafford Street, closed
voluntarily by the owner in 1907, has been repaired and is again
in occupation.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

The following houses have been demolished: those at
Parkbrook above-mentioned (modern working-class houses have
been erected on the site); two houses, Nos. 42 and 44 Hill
Street, closed in 1900; three cottages at James Bridge Old
Fields, closed in 1907; and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Gorton's Yard,
closed in 1906.

Table III.

Result of Notices requiring abatement of Nuisance from
overcrowding in dwelling-houses.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of houses in which the number of inmates was reduced ..	4	2	6	12
„ houses vacated ...	4	2	3	9

COMPLAINTS AND LETTERS.

172 written and 93 verbal complaints of alleged nuisances
have been received at the office and immediately investigated.

1515 letters have been sent out and 780 received, exclusive
of reports.

Table IV.

Samples of water submitted for analysis.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of samples taken ...	18	10	9	37
No. certified as good for drinking ...	7	8	6	21
„ „ unsafe for drinking...	9	2	1	12
„ „ unfit for drinking ...	2	...	2	4
No. of wells closed ...	7	4	...	11
„ houses supplied with S.S. water	18	6	...	24

SYSTEMATIC HOUSE TO HOUSE VISITATION.

This work has proceeded steadily throughout the year, a portion of each Ward has been inspected, the number of houses visited being, viz.:—

No. 1 District	...	...	...	..	3073 houses
„ 2 „	...	...	...	...	2050 „
„ 3 „	...	...	...	...	3401 „
Total					8524 houses

Table V.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Each cowshed is lime-washed at least twice during the year.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of persons registered during the year as cow-keeper or milk-sellers	16	15	13	44
No. of persons who have given up the trade of cow-keepers or milk-sellers during the year ...	10	13	7	30
No. of cow-keepers on register	11	5	23	39
„ milk-sellers	61	96	51	208
„ Total	72	101	74	247
„ milking cows kept ...	232	35	148	415
„ inspections ...	244	348	299	891

Bakehouses.

Each bakehouse is lime-washed at least twice during the year.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of bakehouses in use ...	18	28	19	65
„ underground bakehouses ...	...	...	1	1
„ bakehouses registered as factories ...	2	4	2	8
„ of inspections ...	171	117	118	406

Slaughter-houses.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of registered slaughter-houses in use 31/12/08	8	4	10	22
„ licensed slaughter-houses in use 31/12/08	4	8	7	19
Total ...	12	12	17	41
No. of slaughter-house licenses renewed	2	4	5	11
„ notices of occupation received	3	1	2	6
„ slaughter-houses in which con- crete floors have been laid...	1	...	1	2
„ inspections	662	539	778	1979

The slaughter-house situate in 1½ court, Stafford Street, mentioned in the 1907 report as not having been in use since February, 1907. was re-occupied, and a license for the same granted on March 16th, 1908.

The slaughter-houses situate at the rear of 29 High Street and 60 Park Street, respectively, have not been in use since May, 1908.

Fish Yards.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of fish yards	3	6	3	12
„ inspections	143	165	141	449

Workshops.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of new workshops notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories	26	31	6	63
„ new workshops reported by the Sanitary Inspectors ...	4	7	6	17
„ removals reported by the Sani- tary Inspectors ...	32	66	8	106
„ workshops on the Register ...	260	290	158	708
„ complaints received from H.M. Inspector of Factories	2	2	...	4
„ notices served relative to in- sanitary conditions at work- shops ...	78	62	38	178
„ Inspections of workshops ..	527	433	248	1208
„ „ factories ...	24	5	18	47
Work carried out in compliance with notices, viz.:—				
No. of rooms lime-washed and cleansed ...	145	83	21	249
„ workshops repaired (roofs. spoutings, &c.) ...	2	...	...	2
Other nuisances abated ...	1	1	...	2
No. of new urinals provided ...	1	...	...	1
„ water-closets repaired ...	1	...	...	1
„ workshops having drains cleared, &c, ...	4	...	...	4
„ nuisances abated by removal of animals or poultry ...	1	...	...	1
„ nuisances abated arising from gas fumes ...	...	1	...	1
HOMEWORK.				
No. of visits to outworkers ...	92	212	71	375

Table VI.**UNWHOLESOME FOOD DESTROYED.**

Beef, Tuberculous ...	176½lbs.	weight.
Pork, tainted, 2 boxes	104lbs.	„
Kidneys „ 1 box	16lbs.	„
Rabbits 31		
Halibut 1	36lbs.	„
Crabs 65		
Prawns ...	24lbs.	„
Smoked Fillets	14lbs.	„
Eggs, 1 Case containing	384	
Apples, 20lbs.	weight.	

Table VII.**Infectious Diseases.**

771 cases were notified under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, from January 1st, 1908 to December 31st, 1908.

	No. 1 Dis.	No. 2 Dis.	No. 3 Dis.	Totals
No. of houses in which Infectious Diseases have occurred ...	156	260	149	565
„ visits to above houses ...	624	1040	596	1260
„ houses fumigated by Inspectors	203	278	141	622

No. of persons supplied with brushes ... 1584

„ „ „ lime ... 1861

In addition to the above figures 122 houses have been disinfected by the Sanitary Inspectors where fatal cases of Phthisis have occurred, viz.: 37 in No. 1 District; 52 in No. 2 District; and 33 in No. 3 District.

On December 31st there were 29 houses infected with notifiable disease, viz.: in No. 1 District, 8 with Scarlet Fever, 1 with Typhoid Fever, and 1 with Diphtheria. In No. 2 District, 10 with Scarlet Fever, and 1 with Diphtheria. In No 3 District, 7 with Scarlet Fever, and 1 with Typhoid Fever.

Number of Notices sent to Schools respecting Infectious Disease in houses from which children attend School, January 1st, 1908, to December 31st, 1908.

Name of School.	No. of Notices sent <i>re</i> Infected Houses.	No. of Notices sent Houses free from Infection.
All Saints', James Bridge...	1	1
Bath Street ...	12	12
Blakenall ...	3	3
Bridge ...	17	19
Butts ...	34	36
Caldmore ...	7	6
Chuckery ...	16	17
Centenary ...	6	9
Croft Street ...	32	34
Elmore Green ...	17	15
Hillary Street ...	31	46
Leamore ...	1	10
Little Bloxwich ..	2	2
National (Bloxwich) ...	17	14
North Walsall ...	19	19
Palfrey ...	71	76
Queen Mary's ...	16	15
St. Andrew's ...	7	8
St. John's, Pleck ...	4	2
St. Mary's Roman Catholic ...	8	8
St. Matthew's ...	13	11
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic ...	12	15
St. Peter's ,, (Bloxwich)	1	1
St. Peter's (John Street) ...	6	7
Tantarra Street ...	18	20
Wesley (Ablewell Street) ...	11	12
Whitehall ...	46	48
Whitehouse Street ...	7	8
Wisemore ...	9	15
Wolverhampton Road ...	30	36
Private Schools ...	12	14
Others ...	4	4
Total ...	500	543

Notices to Sunday Schools of Infected Houses ... 315

Streets and Places in the Borough where Infectious Diseases have been reported and visited by the Inspectors during the year 1908, alphabetically arranged in the different Wards of the Borough.

Bridge Ward.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Ablewell	Street	...	...			1			
Albert	"	...	...				1		
Bath	"	...	...				3		
Birmingham	"	...	...				1		
Church	"	...	...				1		
Dudley	"	...	...		1		2		
Duncalfe	"	...	...			1			1
Digbeth	"	...	...				1		
Fieldgate	Terrace	...	...			1	1		
George	Street Terrace	...	...				1		
Glebe	"	...	...				1		
Hateley's	Lane	...	...			1	1		
Little	Newport Street	...	...				1		
Monntrath	"	...	...				2		
Mount	"	...	...				2		
Navigation	"	...	...				3	1	
Newhall	"	...	...			1			
Orlando	"	...	...				1		
Peal	Street	"	...			1	2		
Rushall	"	Upper	...				1		
Tasker	"	...	...				1		
Wisemore,	The	...	...				1		
Wisemore	Villas	...	..				2		

Paddock Ward.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Ball Street	...	...	...	I				9	
Bank	„	...	..			I	2		
Beacon	„	...	...				II		
Bernard	„	...	...				I		
Birmingham Road		...	...				I		
Bott Lane	...	...	...			I			
Charlotte Street		...	...				I		
Dark Lane	...	...	...				I		
Eldon Street		...	...				I		
Florence	„	...	...	I			2		
Hatherton	„	...	...				I	I	
Holtshill Lane		...	...				I		
Intown Row	...	...	...				2		
Lichfield Street		...	...				2		
Lime	„	...	...	I		I	I		
Lodge Road		...	...				I		
Lumley Road		...	...				I		
Moncrieffe Street		...	...	I			2		I
Paddock		...	...				8		
Persehouse	„	...	...				5		
Richmond	„	...	...	I					
Rowley	„	...	...				10		
Rushall	„	Lower	...				4	6	
Sutton Road	...	...	...				2		
Tantarra Street	..	...	...				5		
Union	„	...	...				I		
Walhouse	„	Lower	...				I		
„	„	Upper	...				I		
Walsingham Street	...	...	...				3	I	
Ward	„	...	...				2	I	

Pleck Ward.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Bescot Road	...	...	...				3		
Bridgeman Street	...	...	...			2	6		
Brineton	„	...	...	I					
Brook	„	...	...				I		
Brook	„	Upper	...	3			I		
Chapel	„	...	...				I		
Charles	„	...	...				2		
Checketts	„	...	...				I		
Darlaston Road	...	...	...				12		
Dora	Street	...	...	2		I	6		
Ford	„	...	...				I		
Forrester	„	...	...			2			
Hillary	„	...	...				I		
Ida Road	...	...	...			I	I		
Kingsley	„	...	...	I			I		
Long	„	...	..				4		
Manor Road	...	...	...				3		
Moat Road	...	...	...			I			
Navigation	„	...	...				I		
Oxford	„	...	...	I			I		
Pleck Road	...	...	...				6		
Prince	„	...	...	I			5		
Queen	„	...	...			I	8		
Regent	„	...	...				I		
Renwick Terrace	...	...	...				4		
Rollingmill Street	...	...	...				I		
Scarborough Road	...	...	...				3		
Slaney	„	...	...			I	I		
Vicarage Row	...	...	...				I		
Wednesbury Road	...	...	...	I		I	4		
Wilbraham	„	...	...			I	4		
Wolverhampton Road	...	...	...	3		I	1		

Caldmore Ward.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Arundel Street	...	..		1		1	3		
Alexandra „	...	...					2		
Alexandra Terrace	...	...					1		
Bath Road	...	...					5		
Belvidere Road	...	.					1		
Bescot Street	...	...					12		
Brace „	...	...		4			1	1	
Caldmore Road	...	...				1	1		
Cambridge Street	..	...		1			5		
Camden „	...	...		1			1		
Cobden „	...	...		5			8	1	
Corporation „	...	...					1		
Countess „	...	...		1			1		
Dale „	...	..				1	3		
Emery „	...	...					2		
Highfield Passage	..	...					1		
Highgate Road	..	...					7		
Hope Street	...	...					1		
King „	...	...		1					
Lord „	...	...		2			9		
Milton „	...	...		3			9		
Mount „	...	...					1		
New Mills „	...	...		1			1		
Oxford „	...	...		1			1		
Palfrey Lane	...	...					1		
Queen Street	...	...		1			2		
Rosamond „	...	...					1		
Rutter „	...	...		2			6		
Sandwell „	...	...		4			2		
South „	...	...				1			
Spout Lane	..	...					8		
Sun „	...	...		1			1		
Thelma „	...	...						1	
Thorpe „	...	...					6		
Victor „	...	..					3		
Villiers „	...	.					1		
Vincent „	...	...					1		

Caldmore Ward—continued.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Wednesbury Road	...	...					2		
West Bromwich Road	...	...		2	1	1	10		
West Bromwich Street	...	...		1			3		
Weston Street	...	...					4		
Whitehall Road	...	...		2		2	15		
White Street	...	...					1		
Whitmore Street	...	...		1			5		
Windsor	„	...	...				3		

Hatherton Ward.

Borneo Street	...	...				1	2		
Butts Road	...	...					3	1	
Butts Street	...	...					5		
Butts, The	...	...					2		
Cannon Street	...	...			1		1		
Cecil	„	...			1		11		
Eastbourne	„	...					2		
Forster	„	Upper	...				3		
Garden	„	...	...				3		
Hatherton	„	...	...			1	2		
James	„	...	...					1	
Littleton	„	East	...				2		
„	„	West	...				2		
Lichfield Road	„	...	...			1	2		
„ Street	...	...	...			1	2		
Marlow	„	...	...				2		
Mellish Road	...	...	...				1		
Mill Lane	...	...	...				2		
North Street	...	...	...	2			2		
Portland	„	...	...	1			8		
Ryecroft	„	...	...				4		
Stafford	„	...	...			1	1		
Teddesley	„	...	...			2	9	1	
Warwick	„	...	...				1		
Westbourne Road	...	...	...			1			
William Street	...	...	...				2		

Birchills Ward.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Bentley Lane	...	...					9		
Birchills, The	...	...	I						
Birch Street	...	...					I		
Blue Lane ...	...	...				I	I		I
Burrowes Street	...	...					4		
Cairns ,,	...	...	I						
Croft ,,	...	...					4		
Dalkeith ,,	...	...					I		
Farrington ,,	...	...					I	I	
Forge ,,	...	...					2		
Francis ,,	...	...					I		
Green Lane	...	...				2	4		
Hall Street	...	...					2		
Hollyhedge Lane	...	...				I	4		
Hospital Street	...	...					3		
Lewis ,,	...	...					2		
Little ,,	...	...					2		
Longacre	...	...					4		
Margaret ,,	...	...				I	2		
Mary ,,	...	...					6		
Newland ,,	...	...				I	2	I	
Pargeter ,,	...	...					2		
Penkridge ,,	...	...					2		
Rowland ,,	...	...					5	I	
St. Michael's Square	...	...						2	
Shaw Street	...	...					I		
Shortacre ,,	...	...				I	4		
Stafford ,,	...	...					I		
Wolverhampton Road	...	...	I						
,, Street	...	...					3		

Leamore Ward.

STREETS.				No. of cases of Diphtheria.	No. of cases of Membranous Croup	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.
Alma Square	...	...			I				
Bentley Lane	...	...					2		
Blakenall Heath	...	...					2		
Blakenall Lane	...	...					3		
Blakenall Row	...	..				I			
Bloxwich Road	...	...	2			I	I 4		
Chapel Row, Coalpool	...	...					2		
Cope Street	...	...				I			
Derby „	...	...					I		
Essex „	...	...					3		
Field „	...	...					4		
Gladstone „	...	...					4		
Goscote	...	...					3		
Green Lane Upper	...	.					I		
Green Lane, Leamore	...	...					I		
Harden Lane	...	...					I		
Hereford Street	...	...	I						
High „	...	...					5		
May „	...	...					2		
Miner „	...	...					6	I	
Old Coalpool	...	...					I		
Proffitt Street	...	...					3		
Providence Lane	...	...					I		
Reedswood Lane	...	...					3		
Reeves Street	...	...	I				2		
Victoria Terrace, Ryecroft	...	...					I		
West Street ...	...	...					3		

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

(Copied from Report made to Local Government Board, January 1st, 1909).

Summary of samples analysed during the year ending December 31st, 1908, showing how many samples of each article were analysed, and how many were reported by the Analyst as adulterated, the number of formal and informal samples being distinguished, also a statement of the cases in which legal proceedings have been taken with respect to samples reported as adulterated, of the result of such proceedings, and of the respective amounts of the fines inflicted and the costs paid.

Description of article analysed.				Total Number of Samples.	Number certified as genuine.	Number certified as adulterated.
Milk	...	..	...	74	59	15
Butter	...	...	...	43	38	5
Milk Blended Butter	...	...	...	1	1	
Cheese	...	...	...	5	5	
Lard	...	...	...	5	5	
Coffee	...	...	...	3	3	
Whiskey	...	...	...	3	3	
Gin	...	...	...	1	1	
Rum	...	...	...	1	1	
Camphorated Oil	...	...	...	3	3	
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	...	.		4	3	1
Raspberry and Apple Jam	...		...	1	1	
Fullers Earth	...	...	..	1	1	
Total				145	124	21

Number of Formal samples	...	...	124
Number of Informal samples	...	...	21
Total			<u>145</u>

Legal Proceedings.

Date and number of sample.	Date of hearing.	Offence.	Amount of Fine.	Amount of Costs.
1908.	1908.			
May 27th No. 374	July 3rd	Selling Milk 22 per cent. deficient in cream	...	Conviction 10/6
Oct. 7th No. 458	Dec. 4th	Selling Milk which contained 9 per cent. of added water	...	No Conviction £1 11s. 6d.

LIST OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES FOR WHICH LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WERE NOT INSTITUTED.

Date and number of sample.	Nature of adulteration.	Remarks.
1908. January 9th No. 336 Butter	Margarine containing only 2 per cent. of butter fat	Each sample was obtained at a small retail shop from a parcel of unlabelled Margarine. The vendor was cautioned by letter. On subsequent visits it was found that the Margarine exposed for sale was labelled.
January 29th No. 351 Butter	Margarine containing $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of butter fat	
May 6th No. 366	Milk 7 per cent. deficient in cream	Vendor cautioned.
May 6th No. 368	Milk 9 per cent. deficient in cream	Vendor explained that this Milk was bought with a warranty, and was sold in same state as received, requesting that samples be taken from the farmer. Nine samples obtained in course of delivery, one of which (No. 381), was 14 per cent. deficient in cream.
May 6th No. 369 Butter	Margarine, the fat of which contained only 1 per cent. of butter fat	Unlabelled Margarine in small retail shop. Vendor cautioned by letter.
May 28th No. 381	Milk 14 per cent. deficient in cream	Taken in course of delivery on request of vendor of milk from which sample No. 368 was obtained. Consignor's explanation accepted. No proceedings instituted.

LIST OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES FOR WHICH LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS WERE NOT INSTITUTED—Continued.

Date and number of sample.	Nature of adulteration.	Remarks.
1908.		
July 14th No. 400	Butter which was milk blended butter	{ Each Sample was from unlabelled milk blended butter (Bradlac). Vendors cautioned and advised.
July 14th No. 403	Butter which was milk blended butter	
July 15th No. 411	Milk containing 0.002 per cent. of formalin	{ From retailers supplied by same wholesale dealer. Samples Nos. 417 to 423 obtained from him two days later contained formalin.
July 15th No. 413	Milk containing 0.001 per cent. of formalin	
July 17th No. 417	Milk containing for- malin.	These samples taken in different parts of the district were from the same vendor. On being asked for an explanation he wrote apolo- gising for having used formalin, and stating that it was only during hot weather that he did so, he would undertake to cease using formalin altogether. The Com- mittee decided to caution the vendor, informing him that in the event of a future sample of his milk being found to contain forma- lin they would press for a heavy penalty.
July 17th No. 418		
July 17th No. 419		
July 17th No. 420		
July 17th No. 421		
July 17th No. 422		
July 17th No. 423		
August 12th No. 427	Sweet Spirit of Nitre 34 per cent. defi- cient in Ethyl Nitrite	This was an informal sample from a chemist's shop. On visiting to obtain a formal sample the pro- prietor stated he had no Sweet Spirit of Nitre. The business is now given up.
August 12th No. 433	Milk containing 10 per cent. of added water	Vendor cautioned.

ADULTERATED MILK.

In compliance with the suggestion in the Circular issued by the Board of Agriculture, dated December 28th, 1901, where milk has been found adulterated, the vendor's attention has been called to the Analyst's Report. In each case an explanation was given by the vendor with the result that in thirteen instances legal proceedings were not taken.

MARGARINE.

Twelve persons have been cautioned with reference to unlabelled Margarine exposed for sale by retail. Further visits have been made, and it has been found that the requirements of the Act were complied with.

REGISTRATION OF WHOLESALE DEALERS.

The premises of two wholesale dealers have been registered, one for Margarine and the other for Margarine and Milk Blended Butter.

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector under the
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Health Department,
Council House, Walsall.
January 1st, 1909.



Copy of Report under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, made to Local Government Board, January 1st, 1909.

Report of the Inspector appointed under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, for the year ending December 31st, 1908.

The Inspector visits the Canal several times weekly in different parts of the Borough.

Name of Inspector: ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE, Chief Sanitary Inspector. Address: Health Department, Council House, Walsall.

BOATS.

Number of Boats inspected	...	...	...	...	107
"	"	conforming with Acts and Regulations...			98
"	"	with one or more infringements		...	9

OCCUPANTS.

Number of men on boats inspected	...	...	...	170
"	women on Boats inspected	...	...	56
"	children on Boats inspected, under 5 years of age	...	...	47
"	children on boats inspected, girls over 5 and under 12, boys over 5 and under 14 years	...	...	44

NATURE OF INFRINGEMENTS.

Marking	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	2
Painting	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dilapidations	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						10
Infringements remedied	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number of legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	0

Of the one hundred and seven boats examined, one was in an excellent state, eighty-one were good, and twenty-five were in fair condition.

The boats examined this year have been above the standard of former years. This condition I have no doubt results from the systematic inspection proceeding throughout the country.

Although in this Borough the same boats may frequently be seen, it is only after an interval of not less than six months that I record a second inspection, and as I may meet a boat several times between the examinations recorded in the journal, I am constantly in touch with the same boats, and this I think is the reason that so few contraventions (comparatively) are noted.

As a class I have found the occupants of boats recognise the value of inspection, it brings increased comfort in their mode of life. A master of a boat may be reluctant to call his employer's attention to need for re-painting or repairs; the Inspector, however, has no compunction in the matter, and the necessary steps are taken for bringing the case to the notice of those responsible for effecting remedial measures.

The general cleanliness of the cabins has been satisfactory, only in a very few cases has it been necessary to request cleansing. The occupants have been found in good health.

The number of women and children on the boats is as high as in previous years.

The following table gives the ages of the 91 children reported as living on the boats inspected:—

					BOYS.	GIRLS	TOTAL.
	under 1 year	...	...		2	5	7
1	and under 2 years	...	...		5	8	13
2	" 3 "	...	..		2	4	6
3	" 4 "	...	...		4	11	15
4	" 5 "	...	...		5	1	6
5	" 6 "	...	...		1	5	6
6	" 7 "	...	...		2	4	6
7	" 8 "	...	...		—	3	3
8	" 9 "	...	...		1	5	6
9	" 10 "	...	.		5	4	9
10	" 11 "	...	...		3	2	5
11	" 12 "	...	...		4	3	7
12	" 13 "	...	...		2	—	2
Totals					36	55	91

Females upwards of twelve years are included in the number of women, and males upwards of fourteen years are included in the number of men.

There were on 25 boats fore-cabins registered for use, 12 of which were occupied as sleeping places.

The total registered accommodation was for $358\frac{1}{2}$ adult persons, the total occupants equalled $271\frac{1}{2}$ adults.

In seven cases the ordinary blue notice form has been used for notifying contraventions to owners. In one instance a letter was sent, and two matters were dealt with by giving verbal instructions to the masters of the boats.

No infectious disease has been found on the boats.

Mr. Owen J. Llewellyn, H.M. Chief Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts, examined the Register of Inspections and Complaint Book on April 29th, 1908, and made an enquiry as to the administration of the Canal Boats Acts in this Borough.

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

Inspector of Nuisances, and Inspector of Canal Boats.

January 1st, 1909.



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